

The Daily Gazetteer.

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Extract of a Private Letter.

Brussels, June 9, 1744.

In Answer to what you desired to know of me, with respect to the Situation of Things since the breaking out of the War in this Country, I would willingly satisfy your Curiosity if I could; but the Truth of the Matter is, that we are but indifferent Judges here, of what passes

in our Neighbourhood; because too close an intimacy into the Situation of Things, would expose a man to the Hazard of being thought a Spy; than which, nothing can be more dangerous at this juncture. At your News-Papers must inform you. The Method therefore that I can take to oblige you, without risking my own Safety, is to give you an Account of such Things as are generally known here; with respect to the Truth of which, you need be in no sort of Apprehension.

The Loss of Menin gives us some Pain, especially during the Time and Manner in which it was taken, for it is a strong and regular Fortification, and in the Year 1706, it cost the Confederates a Siege of 40 Days open Trenches, tho' it was lost now in five Days. His most Christian Majesty has left a strong Garrison there; and the Marshal Count de Saxe has a Plan for rendering it one of the strongest in Europe; and if once we should see the French bent to put this in Execution, we must naturally have Hopes of Peace; since it cannot be supposed that the Dutch will ever consent to leave it in the Hands of France, by a general Peace, upon any Terms.

The City of Ypres, or, as we usually call it here, Bruges, was formerly included in French Flanders. It is in the middle of a fair Plain, on the little River Scheldt. The Town is well built, especially the Market-Place, which is very spacious. It was formerly, when the Netherlands enjoyed a great Proportion of the Trade of Europe, a Staple for Wool; and even, at present, its Manufactures, both of Wool and Linen, are very considerable. In respect to its Situation, it is extremely impregnable; and its new Fortifications are so just and regular, that it may be said to stand as great Force as any in its Neighbourhood. It stands 35 Miles S. W. of Ghent; is far removed from us than Menin, and yet is of much Consequence; because, in all human Probability, the Loss of this Place might be followed by the Loss of Ghent; and it is generally thought, that the French had this in View, when they invested it. The Count of Hesse-Philippstadi, who commands there, is a Man of great Experience, has a numerous Garrison, well provided with all Necessaries, and therefore we persuade ourselves, that before the French can march and give them Battle, which it is at present.

The French Armies are not, indeed, so numerous as they are reported; but they are very strong for all they are disposed in such a manner, that it is not easy for Generals to quit their present Camp; since they are in a manner, in the Middle, between the Duke of Burgundy's Army, which is at present in the Neighbourhood of Mons, and the Grand Army. We daily see very great Convoys of Ammunition and Provisions, and are preparing to send a Train of Field Guns to the Army, either this Afternoon or Tomorrow. A Report prevails here, as if Prince Charles had settled the Preliminaries of a Peace, which had concluded a Neutrality with the Emperor, which will afford him an Opportunity of marching into the Low Countries with the mighty Army that he has assembled upon the Rhine, which, should really come to pass, would overturn all French King's Schemes, and give, instantly, a new Turn to our Affairs on this Side.

The English Forces are in very high Spirits, and are nothing more than an Opportunity of fighting the Enemy fairly. The Dutch Troops are in exact Order, have a fine Train of Artillery, and are daily to hear of the March of 20,000 of their Countenance, at least, to join them. M. de Croisfontaine, lately went to pay his Respects to the Archduke, assured her of the Truth of this, and that in a few Weeks Time, he did not doubt the Army of the Emperor would be a Match for that of the Enemy;

which gives us very great Spirits here; and what likewise contributes to keep them up is, the gallant Behaviour of our Irregular Troops, who have, hitherto, indisputably had the Advantage of the French in six or seven different Encounters. The Highlanders that are here, were attacked, not long ago, at Loppin, by a considerable Part of the French Independent Company, that kills themselves, Children of Mars and Bolons; but they were very roughly handled by the Highlanders, and after a Dispute of half an Hour, were obliged to retire, leaving 11 dead, and 13 Prisoners behind them. I have already blotted more Paper than I at first intended, and am afraid I have tired your Patience; as well as exhausted my Subject for the present; but I persuade myself, that I shall very soon have an Opportunity of writing to you again, on Matters of more Importance. In the mean Time, I am, &c.

IRELAND.

Dublin, June 9. On Sunday a Romish Clergyman was called to George's Quay to Christen a Child of Mrs. Fowerone, a Woman, who was Nurse-keeper, being married to a Soldier, went for her Husband to partake of the Cheer at the Christening, who happened to come in before the Ceremony was over. And asking some Questions to the following Purpose: What Man was that who baptized the Child, for he had done it improperly? Upon which the Priest told him, he was a Blockhead, it was none of his Business; whereupon the Soldier gave him a Stroke, and took him up, as being a Priest, and lodged him in the Provost-Marshal's There was a great Disturbance in the Neighbourhood, occasioned by a great Mob gathering, and attempting to rescue him; several of whom were wounded, and some of them seized, and committed to Newgate.

The same Day died Father Rivers, who had been, for many Years, the Parish Priest of Dirty-lane Chapel, near Thomas-street; he was one of those that were termed Register'd Priests; and his now reckoned, that there are not above three of that Number living.

Last Week died, at his House near Cork, William Nash, Esq; Counsellor at Law; a Gentleman, who to the Knowledge of his Profession joined the greatest Good-nature, Candour, and Affability; which recommended him as a sincere Friend, and a most agreeable Companion.

Yesterday died, at his House in Bride-street, Francis Blake, Esq; Counsellor at Law.

Last Week died at Limerick, Alderman Vincent, Keeper of the Stores in that City, for the Trustees of the Linen Manufacture.

Last Wednesday died, at his Country Seat, Edward Bond, or Bondville, in the County of Armagh, Esq; much lamented by all who knew him; as he was a Gentleman of good Understanding, great Affability, and one of the greatest Planters of his Time; but his Loss is still more sensibly felt and regretted by his near Friends and Neighbours, as he was a warm, active, and sincere Friend; and a Lord of cheerful and tender; well skilled in the Business of his Country, and industrious in seeking and promoting the Interest of it; and, in his Capacity of Justice of the Peace, a prudent, but steady, mild, but unbiassed and uncorrupted Magistrate. He ordered himself to be buried in a private Manner, and, instead of Funeral Pomp, he left room to the Poor. He desired a Dial to be erected above his Grave, under which are to be the following Verses.

No Marble Pomp, no Monumental Praise,
My Tomb this Dial; Epitaph these Lays.
Pride and low-mould'ring Clay but ill agree;
Death levels me to Beggars; Kings to me.
Alive, Instruction was my Work each Day;
Dead, I persist Instruction to convey.
Here Reader mark (perhaps now in thy Prime)
The fleeting Steps of never-holding Time:
Thou'lt be what I am; catch the present Hour;
Employ that well, for that's within thy Power.

COUNTRY NEWS.

Norwich, June 9. Last Wednesday the Rev. Mr. Prescott, Master of Catherine Hall in Cambridge, and Prebendary of Norwich, was elected, by the Dean and Chapter, Minister of Great Yarmouth in Norfolk, in the room of the Rev. Dr. Micro, deceased.

Last Wednesday one William Flaxman was committed, for stealing about 20 l. out of the House of Henry Wright, without Magdalen Gates. He was apprehended at Easton, and about 15 l. found upon him, which he owned he had stolen from Wright.

Yesterday a Boy, about six Years of Age, fell into the River in St. Martin's at Oak, and was drown'd.

HOME PORTS.

Liverpool, June 8. Arrived this Day the Staff-rd. Ferry, from Gottenburgh for this Place: She was taken by a French Privateer between the Orkneys and Shetland, and was ransom'd for 225 l. The said Privateer took three English Ships the same Morning, before she took the Staff-rd. The Privateer is called the *Susannah*, has eight Carriage and 18 S-wheeled Guns, and 250 Men.

Weymouth, June 8. Just now came in the *George*, Miller, from Carolina for London, who met with his Majesty's Ships the *Hampton-Court* and *Chatter*, with the *East-India* Men under their Convoy, the 31st of May, to the Westward of the Lizard, but don't fly how far, and all well on board. Came in the *Providence* of London, from Oporto for Dartmouth; also his Majesty's Ships the *Prince Frederick* and *Dreadnought*, and brought in with them the *Restoration*, Edward Randolph, of and for London from Virginia; who was taken the 1st of June, 18 Leagues W. S. W. of Scilly, by a French Privateer of 18 Guns and 200 Men. The *Restoration* fought an Hour, and killed several of the Privateer's Men. She was retaken the 9th of June, 12 Leagues from the Lizard, by the above Ships. Captain Randolph is a bold and well.

Weymouth, June 9. Wind S. W. Yesterday sailed the *Squirrel* Man of War to the Westward. All our Coasters sailed the 7th in the Morning for Portsmouth, in hopes to find a Convoy there for London, viz. the *George*, *Rail*, for Bremen; the *Betty*, *Watson*, the *William*, *Wilton*, the *Thomas* and *Rebecca*, *Effery*, the *Catherine*, *Tirard*, the *Thomas* and *Sarah*, *Bishop*, the *William* and *Catherine*, *Pond*, the *Loyal Charles*, *Newman*, the *Sarah*, *Mansel*, the *Portland*, *Russell*, the *Dove*, *Webb*, the *Mary*, *Tucker*, the *Convent*, *Hickman*, the *Elizabeth*, *Bert*, the *Charming Sally*, *Bell*, the *Little Crown*, *Brin*, the *Anne*, *Bishop*, the *Two Sisters*, *Penny*, the *William* and *Mary*, *Thomas*, the *Edward* and *Mary*, *Morris*, the *John* and *Elizabeth*, *Keate*, the *Pretty Betty*, *White*, the *Industry*, *Crambe*, the *John* and *Maria*, *Devere*, all of and from this Place for London; and, by a small Vessel arrived here this Morning, we hear they are all safe arrived there. Sailed also the *John* and *Mary*, *Bardy*, from Lyme for London. The 7th in the Evening came to an Anchor in Portland Road, and still remains, the *Greyhound* Privateer, Capt. Jenkins of Falmouth, from London, and has brought in with him a Prize, called the *Postillion*, of Bilbao, Jacob Groot, from Amsterdam.

Port, June 9. Sailed the *Jane* and *Mary*, *Rogers*, for London; and the *Thomas*, *Pirson*, for Plymouth.

Cornwall, June 8. On the 6th sailed the Duke of Cumberland, *Edon*, for Oporto; the 8th came in the *Betty*, *Oliver*, of and for Alderney from Southampton, and sailed this Morning. Just now came in the *Happy Return*, *Gordon*, of and from Guernsey for Southampton, Wind N. W.

Portsmouth, June 10. Came to Spithead the *Phoenix* Man of War with the following Ships under her Convoy from Guernsey, viz. the *Union* *Grubb*, the *William* and *Mary*, *Solebie*, the *Two Brothers* and *Sisters*, *Barbedson*, the *William* and *Elizabeth*, *Cooke*, and the *Robert* and *Thomas*, *Taverner*, all for London; the *Good Love*, *Grutz*, and the *Mary*, *Claire*, for Rotterdam.

Dover, June 9. Wind N. N. W. Arrived two Portuguese Vessels from Lisbon, and several Coasters from the Westward, bound to London. The *Eagle* Privateer has brought into this Place five Sail of French Fishing Boats, with their Crews, being 34 Men, which they took near Deipe: The French sent out a large Vessel, full of Soldiers, in order to take the *Eagle*; but she peppered them so heartily, that the French made more haste back, than she did to come out. The *Eagle* is sailed again this Tide on another Cruise.

Dartmouth, June 9. Wind N. W. In the Downs, the *Mary*, *Bird*, and *Lovely Betty*, *Wane*, both for Jamaica; the *Maryland* Merchant, *Jermain*, the *Bond*, *Johnson*, the *Cambridge*, *Dunkin*, and the *Sea Horse*, *Randall*, all for Maryland; the *Bladen*, *Glover*, for Virginia; the *Williams*, *Harrison*, and the *Argyle*, *Seymour*, both for Philadelphia. Just came down the *Grand Duke*, *Major* and the *Tuscan*, *Nichols*, both on a Cruise.

Dartmouth, June 10. Wind S. W. Came down Yesterday the *Priscilla*, *Tiffin*, for Maryland, and Remains with the Outward-bound as per list. Arrived his Majesty's Ship the *Torrington* from Portsmouth, with a great many Coasters.

Graveland, June 10. Passed by the *Santa Maria*, *C. Stebbuck*, from Sateen.

